in Faburary 1993; and a Cultural Agreement signed in September 1982 under which Cultural Exchange Programmes are drawn up every three years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Visit of Agricultural Delegation to Israel

3851. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agricultural delegation visited Israel in the year 1993;

(b) what was the status of the delegation;

(c) whether any agreement was signed between India and Israel;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the delegation had visited any other country; and

(f) What was the outcome of that visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Ministry of Agriculture, the following delegations of Government of India visited Israel in 1993:—

(i) A delegation led by Shri Shard Pawar, Chief Minister of Maharashtra to visit the Agritech Exhibition organised by the Government of Israel from May 2—6, 1993

(ii) Delegation led by Shri Balram Jakhar, Minister of Agriculture from July 4—7,—1993.

(c) and (d) Subsequent to these visits, an Agreement for Cooperation in the field of Agriculture was signed between the two countries in December 1993. The Agreement provides for cooperation in agricultural science and technology including research, eductation, extension and training, development projects and joint ventures between companies or institutions of the two countries through collaborative activities and exchanges in the areas of water and soil management, arid and semiarid crop production, plant and animal sciences, veterinary science, farm mechanisation and technology, agro forestry, etc.

Cooperation under the Agreement is to be carried out through biennial Work Plans.

(e) and (f) From Israel the delegation led by Agriculture Minister visited (i) Cyprus from July 8—11, 1993 to discuss bilateral cooperation in agriculture and sign a Work Plan for the years 1993-94 under the ongoing Programme of Cooperation in the field of Agriculture with Cyprus; and (ii) Rome, Italy, from July 12—13, 1993 to hold discussions with Director General, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Executive Director, World Food Programme.

Negotiation with Bangladesh

3852. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to keep the Government of West Bengal involved in various stage of its negotiations with Bangladesh, on irrigation, economic, border management and similar other issues; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government keeps the Government of West Bengal informed about the issues of the latter's interest relating to Indo-Bangladesh relations. This is ensured through discussions both at official and political levels from time to time.

Expanding the Activities of ICCR in Islamic Countries

3853. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider engaging the lobbyist services for the Islamic countries to contain the wrong propaganda of Pakistan regarding Kashmir;

(b) what is the present infrastructure with our missions in the Islamic countries to counter the false propaganda of Pakistan and inform the activities of ISI in spreading terrorism in India;

(c) whether Government will consider expanding the activities of ICCR is Islamic